

GRAUSTARK

#241 1970J, 1970W, 1970BB, 1970BN, 1970BQ 19 June 1971

1970W "Fall 1910"

NEW GOVERNMENT IN RUSSIA.

Following "Spring 1910" moves, France retreated A Bur-Pic. Ron Salcedo has resigned as Russia and has been succeeded by Charles E. Johnson. Johnson's new address is 705 Leprechaun Lane, Papillon, Nebr. 68046.

ENGLAND (Walker): F Norway S GER-
MAN F Den-Swe; F Norwegian Sea
S F Norway; F North Atlantic-
Iri.

FRANCE (Vost): F Bre-Mid; A Pic-
Bur; A Par S A Pic-Bur; F Por-
Spa(n.c.).

GERMANY (McCallum): F Den-Swe; F
Bal S F Den-Swe; A Kie-Hol.

ITALY (Ward): F Mid-Bre; F Spa
(s.c.)-Por; F Wes-Mid; F North
Africa S F Wes-Mid; A Bel-Pic;
A Bur-Par; A Gas S A Bur-Par; A
Mar-Spa; A Tyr-Mun; A Ser, A
Pie, A Smy, A Bud, F Tun, A Apu,
& A Rom hold.

RUSSIA (C. Johnson): F Ska-North
Sea; A Swe S F St.P(n.c.)-Nor-
way; F St.P(n.c.)-Norway; A Ber
& A Livonia hold; A Pru S A Ber;
A Sil-Mun.

Underlined moves are not possible. The French A Par is annihilated, and Russia retreats A Swe-Fin. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Nor. (4)

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Por. (3)

GERMANY: Den, Hol, Kie, Swe. (4)

ITALY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Gre,
Mar, Mun, Nap, Par, Rom, Ser,
Smy, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vie.
(17)

RUSSIA: Ber, Mos, Rum, St.P, Sev,
War. (6)

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1970BN "Fall 1904"

TU KS HURL ITALIANS BACK

Following "Spring 1904" moves, France retreated F Mid-Por. Ron Salcedo has resigned as Germany, and has been succeeded by Blaine Mischel, 55-30 99th St., Rego Park, N. Y. 11368; 212-592-8649.

ENGLAND (Aita): F Lyo-Mar; F Mid-Bre;
F Eng S F Mid-Bre; F Iri-Mid; A
Den-Kie; F Norwegian Sea-North Sea;
F North Sea-Bel; F Hol S F North
Sea-Bel.

FRANCE (Nierenberg): A Bre, A Bel, &
F Spa(s.c.) hold; A Gas S A Bre;
F Por S F Spa(s.c.).

GERMANY (Mischel): A Ruh-Hol; A Kie
S A Ruh-Hol; F Bal-Swe.

ITALY (Model): A Vic-Bud; A Tri S A
Vic-Bud; A Tyr S A Tri; F Tun-Ion;
F Adr S F Tun-Ion; F Tyr-Nap.

RUSSIA (Buchanan): F Bot-Swe; F Pru-
Ber; A Sil-Boh; A Gal-Vie; A Rum-
Bud; F Aer S TURKISH F Eas-Ion.

TURKEY (Barents): A Bud-Tri; A Ser
& A Alb S A Bud-Tri; F Ion-Apu;
F Eas-Ion.

Underlined moves are not possible. Italy retreats A Tri-Ven. The situation around Trieste is an interesting application of the rules. Since the Italian A Tri was attacked from Bud, it can still offer valid support into Bud for the Italian A Vic-Bud. The Russian A Gal-Vie then of course follows. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Den, Edi, Hol, Liv, Lon,
Mar, Nor, Swe. (8)

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Par, Por, Spa. (5)

GERMANY: Kie, Mun. (2)

ITALY: Bud, Nap, Rom, Tun, Ven. (5)

RUSSIA: Ber, Con, Mos, Rum, St.P,
Sev, Vie, War. (8)

(continued on p. 2)

RUSSIA PARTITIONED BY BALKAN ALLIES

Brenton Ver Ploeg wishes to inform his allies that he missed the "Winter 1903" builds because his roommate failed to mail a letter. He is still playing Germany. He also has a new address; he is now at 1822 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, Ill. 60201. He can be reached by telephone at 312-492-7530; it is unlikely that he will be there, but messages can be left.

Mike Childers has a new telephone number too: 713-822-5290. And Bruce Gletty is now at 203½ E. Healey, Champaign, Ill. 61820.

ENGLAND (Boshara): A Edi-Norway; F Norwogian Sea C A Edi-Norway; A St.P-Mos; F Swc-Bal; F Liv-Iri; F Lon-Eng; F Spa(s.c.)-Wes; F Por-Spa(s.c.).

FRANCE (Tretick): A Par-Gas; A Pic-Bol.

GERMANY (Ver Ploeg, vice G. Jones): A War S ENGLISH A St.P-Mos; A Mar-Pic; A Tyr S A Mar-Pic; F Liv-Pru; A Bol holds.

ITALY (Gletty): A Tus-Pic A Von S A Tus-Pic; F Ion-Eas; F Adr-Ion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Mischel): F Tri-Alb; A Vic-Tri; A Gal-Ukr; A Bud-Ser; A Rum S A Gal-Ukr.

RUSSIA (Childers): A Ukr S A Sev; A Sev S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Rum.

TURKEY (Vest): A Arm-Sev; F Bla S A Arm-Sev; A Gre-Alb; F Aeg-Gre; F Bul (c.c.)-Con.

Underlined moves are not possible. The last two Russian armies are dislodged and annihilated. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 JULY 1971. A press release appears on p. 4.

1970BN (continued from p. 1)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Gre, Ser, Smy, Tri. (6)

Russia may build two new units and Turkey may build one. Germany and Italy must each remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 JULY 1971.

ISSHEMEAL-KEP: al-Kap today spoke to the people of Turkey though the wise and kind leader MJIX, this is but a part of what al-Kap said though his greatest servant MJIX. 'All is love and peace for the people of the land of sand. Never before have our people been so unselfless as they are in this war. They are out there dying to save the world from the hated athiests and that URRP that stirs the peace loving nations into war for profit and gain. We will save the world from that fiend if it kills us. We are great and will not put up with the ((SIC)) anymore. We are above the comprehension of the lowly infiedcls that ~~sy~~ utters lies againts the 'chosen people'.

ISSMEAL-GAKA: Cont. from where we left off inside the palace where Hasha showed himself to a Russian Repoter of the highest integrity.

Rep: This potion you give me what is it?

Hasha: a love potion of mine use it on the High Prietess (Hasha vanishes before their eyes)

Rep: Should I try this on her or is this a game of some sort? the life of the world will proably be in this potion. I will try it out and the HP is good looking for a woman, but who like girls? Take that MJIX what a man!!!!!!!

(what is this lust for MJIX?) I shal return!!! (rats)

ISSHEMEAL KEP: Rumours have it that Pandit, Nature, and John are plotting a conspiracy against the Turkish peoples and ALL must resist thisplot on the unknowing turkish people.

(continued on p. 3)

FRANCE SURRENDERS!

ENGLAND (Richard Millor): A Lon-Bre; F Eng C A Lon-Bre; F Mid-Por; F Iri-Mid; A Ber-Sil; A Mun-Boh; A Kie-Mun; A Ruh S A Kie-Mun; F Bal, A Norway, & F North Sea hold.

FRANCE (Locke): F Por holds; A Boh-Vie; A Gal-Bud; A Sil S TURKISH A Ukr-War.

GERMANY (Burley): A Liv-War; A Mos S A Liv-War.

ITALY (Comber): A Bur-Par; A Gre-Bul; A Tri-Ser; A Bud S A Tri-Ser; A Alb S A Tri-Ser; A Tyr S A Vie; F Aeg-Ion [sic; no such unit exists]; F Adr-Aeg [sic]; F Spa(s.c.) S ENGLISH F Mid-Por; A Vie S A Bud; F Ion not ordered, holds.

TURKEY (Aita): F Eas-Ion; A Ser-Gre; F Aeg S A Ser-Gre; A Ukr-War; F Sev S A Rum; A Rum-Bud.

Underlined moves are not possible. The French F Por is annihilated. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:
ENGLAND: Bel, Ber, Bre, Don, Edi, ITALY: Bud, Bul, Mar, Nap, Par, Rom, Hol, Kie, Liv, Lon, Mun, Nor, Ser, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vic. (12)
Por, Swe. (13) RUSSIA: Ank, Con, Gre, Rum, Sev, Smy. (6)
GERMANY: Mos, St.P, War. (3)
Since France has no more supply centers, all French units are removed. England and Italy may each build 2 units. The Gamesmaster already has the English builds; the Italian ones should be phoned in AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. The Gamesmaster will inform all players of the builds. The deadline for "Spring 1913" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 JULY 1971.

BORE-A-LORE-A: Rodney the Squawker, Thane of Two-Faces, Duke of Double-Dealing, and Count of Chicanery revealed his latest ploy in his war on the Arabs. Quoth Rodney, "I have 'apologized' for starting the war. However, in my 'apology' I stated the falsehood that I am the wronged party and continued my insidious accusations against the Arabs. I have ordered my vassals to continue attacking while I plunge my poisoned daggers in the Arabs' backs. This is known as eating your crow while slinging mud in your enemy's eye." When asked if he felt that his continued vicious maligning would lead to peace, Rodney unequivocally stated, "No comment."

PORTUGAL: AVive la France!

SILESIA: The French will throw their support to the Turks attacking War. C'est la Guerre!

1970W (continued from p. 1)

Germany and Italy may each build one unit, as may England. Russia must remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1910" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 JULY 1971. A press release appears on p. 4; another had to be postponed to the next issue for lack of space.

1970BN (continued from p. 2)

HyDUNDERABAD: My how your Hisha grows in the wild.

HYDUNDERABAD: Bustya today said that the world will come to an end soon. We are all to high.

ISSMEAL GAKA: this will be the last written act. NO MORE WRITTEN WORDS SHALL LEAVE HERE. long live the unwritten languages of the world.

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): Upon receiving the last despatch from Turkey, Maharajah Kamasutra IX and Pandit the Bandit, leader of the rebellious Peristaltic Movement, at once proclaimed a truce in their civil war and declared a holiday of national rejoicing.

1970BB

"Fall 1907"

REDS CRUSH WHITES IN DAZZLING MANEUVERS

ENGLAND (Lasky): F Norwegian Sea-Norway; F North Sea S F Norwegian Sea.
 FRANCE (Mischel): F North Atlantic S ENGLISH F Norwegian Sea; F Ska-Norway; A Ruh S A Kie; A Bur S A Ruh; F Mid-Eng; F Wes-Spa(s.c.); F Mar holds.
 GERMANY (Isby): A Hol-Kie.
 ITALY (Comber): A Kie-Ber; A Pio-Mar; F Tus-Lyo; F Tyr S F Tus-Lyo; F Tun-Wes.
 AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Nierenberg): A Ber-Prus; A Sil-War; A Gal S A Sil-War; A Mun S ITALIAN A Kie-Ber; A Rum-Sev; A Bul-Con; F Aeg-Smy; F Eas S F Aeg-Smy.
 RUSSIA (Shuldiner): F Norway holds; A Swe S F Norway; A St.P-Mos; F Bar-St.P(n.c.); A Pru-Ber; F Bal S A Pru-Ber; A War-Sil; A Sev-Rum; A Con S F Smy; F Smy S A Con; F Den S GERMAN A Hol-Kie.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian A Kie is annihilated. Russia retreats F Smy-Syr and is dislodged from War and may retreat; this retreat must be phoned to Gamesmaster Boshara immediately. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Lon. (2)	AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Ber, Bud, Bul, Gro,
FRANCE: Bel, Bro, Liv, Mar, Par,	Mun, Rum, Sor, Smy, Tri, War, Vie.
Por, Spa. (7)	(11)
GERMANY: Hol, Kie. (2)	RUSSIA: Ank, Con, Den, Mos, Nor,
ITALY: Nap, Rom, Tun, Von. (4)	St.P, Sev, Swe. (8)

Germany gained an additional supply center, but since no home supply center is vacant, Germany is unable to build. Austria-Hungary may build 3 new units. Russia must remove 3 units. Deadline for "Winter 1907" adjustments is 6 PM, MONDAY 28 JUNE 1971.

1970E

"Winter 1912"

Just to finish up the loose ends in this game, John Boshara as Italy builds F Nap and Brian Burley as Russia builds F St.P(n.c.) and F Sev. With these builds Italy has 18 units, Russia has 12, and England has 4. The last German unit was removed because Germany no longer has any supply centers.

John Boshara says that he'll write an analysis of this game for publication in GRAUSTARK as soon as possible.

1970W - PRESS RELEASE

PARIS (via ROME): Advance elements of the Second Regimental Combat Team, 184th Infantry entered this capital at 1200 hours today, September 3, 1910, and accepted the surrender of Mayor Pippin Devalieur. King Charles II has fled to Brest where it is reliably reported he is negotiating with elements of the French fleet to sail him into exile in French Indo-China. Nothing important is expected to happen there until 1941, leaving him a long and semi happy life.

1970BQ - PRESS RELEASE

SAIGON: The Austrian Embassy here received word today from the American Commander in Chief that South Vietnam is pregnant due to the fact that Nixon failed to pull out in time.

WASHINGTON (URRP): Efforts by the noted surgeons McGovern and Hatfield to perform a vasectomy here were rejected by President Nixon, who said that "It is against my religion."

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

[This letter column begins with a letter from Philip Cohen, which was truncated last time owing to a lack of space. Comments by the editor are indicated by square brackets.]

PHILIP M. COHEN, 187-40-4892, Box 1179, Student Detachment MDW, Ft. Myer (S. A.), Va. 22211 (27 May 1971): Other matters: The quizzes are very interesting; I particularly liked the Contest of the Last [in #224, with answers in #226, and further remarks in an as yet unpublished letter from Rod Walker].

The price of Lifeline (#236) is \$3, not \$1, on the copy I have.

The Italian Civil War article [in #231] is chilling.

And some questions:

In #138 you ask where first mention of the Grand Duchy of Beaucouillon appears. You never answer, at least in the issues I have. The obvious answer is Gargantua et Pantagruel, but I remember nothing of the sort therein. Or much of any other sort.

[Beaucouillon, while in the Rabelaisian tradition, is much more modern. The Grand Duchy appeared in a pornographic novel entitled Grand Duke Cosimo, written for Maurice Girodias when he was publishing Olympia Press books in Paris. The author used the pseudonym of "Akbar del Piombo"; since piombo is Italian for "lead" his real name was probably Leader or Bleistein or something of that sort. Grand Duke Cosimo was part of a trilogy, with Paula la Piquose and The Double-Bellied Companion; I have them bound as a single, illegally imported volume, under the title The Fetish Crowd. The theme of all three books is that the hereditary aristocracy of Europe is a pack of effete, stupid, oversexed, perverted nit-wits, whose women are easily and enthusiastically available to any man of the lower classes (preferably American) who can demonstrate a sufficient sexual endurance. Grand Duke Cosimo is laid, together with most of its characters, in an obvious imitation of Monaco, and the plot is a take-off on the sensational marriage of Rainier III and Grace Kelly. I decided that the country ought to have a history to match, and provided it with one in my series "A Brief History of the Grand Duchy of Beaucouillon", which ran in GRAUSTARK for almost 50 issues.]

I take it that Bobo Rygmus and Wogastisburg are puns, but on what? I can't find any references in my references.

["Borborigmus" is medical Greek for stomach rumblings. There actually was a Wogastisburg, though it was situated a good ways to the north-west of the Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel. Rod Walker can probably give you a list of its Lord Mayors.]

In #171 you ask for the man and woman honored on U. S. stamps while alive. Who? I looked through a Scott's U. S. catalog (through a catalogue if you prefer) [No, not particularly.] but couldn't find any that seemed to qualify.

[It is generally believed that Mrs. Edith Bolling Galt Wilson posed for the model of "America" that appeared on the \$5.00 stamp of the Series of 1922-3. See the letter column of #176 for details. The men so depicted were the flag-raisers on Iwo Jima, on a 1945 stamp honoring the Marine Corps.]

Allan Calhamer had a wee quiz in #196, partially unanswered yet. Do you know what was the Anti-League League? Or Bill Linden's Green Ukraine?

[The nearest I can come to it was that during the Russian Civil War there was an Ukrainian peasant faction that fought both Reds and Whites; they were called "Greens". I understand that they were clericalist.]

Finally, could you send me please the rules of Ho Jao, mentioned in #227, p. 6? I collect games and always like to hear of one that might be

suitable for postal play.

[Sorry; all I recall is that it was a Mancala-type game played with Go-stones on a 3x3 board at the now-defunct Caricature coffeehouse on McDougal Street in Greenwich Village.]

The collages were all excellent; I regret their demise. Was Ollie on #226 a for real newspaper cartoon? Hard to believe.

[Yes. It runs - or ran, since I can't recall seeing it lately - in the British Tory weekly Spectator.]

The issue number (#222) of GRAUSTARK sample you sent was half the OPERATION AGITATION number, surely the only time this has ever happened. And yet you deny astrology!

[You are by no means the only person to have noted this coincidence. OPERATION AGITATION is a running tally of all the publications I have produced. With #222, GRAUSTARK began to represent an absolute majority of my amateur press efforts.

[What you are concerned with here is not astrology but numerology. I recall with considerable amusement on this point an article written a couple of years ago by Marion Breen for the East Village Other. In this article Mrs. Breen - who writes professionally under the names Marion Zimmer Bradley and Elfrida Rivers - went into great detail to explain why astrology is the key to understanding of the universe, while numerology is a snare and a delusion.]

[Now - to get to the topic of the correct spelling of "Vietnam", for which there wasn't space in the last issue. GRAUSTARK was through all this in #176, when opinions were obtained from two of the only three GRAUSTARK readers who to the best of my knowledge have actually been in Vietnam. Dick Eney, an AID/CIA agent in the Mekong Delta, opts for "Viet Nam" while Brenten Ver Ploeg, an army veteran, says that the Saigon government itself doesn't seem to know which is correct. "In about half the cases, they spell it 'Viet-Nam'. The other half of the cases are divided between 'Vietnam' and 'Viet Nam'." In using "Vietnam" I follow the usage of the New York Times, the World Almanac, Whitaker's Almanac, Mad, Barry Goldwater, Hsinhua News Agency, and the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Nor is this inconsistent with other Vietnamese proper names. After all, do we write "Ha Noi", "Sai Gon", "Hai Phong", or "Me Kong"?)

(later): First I have to clear up a mistake. The fortunetelling book is I Jing. "Xing" is more like "syng". Confusing: the new Yale system distinguishes between "ch" before "i" ("Qi") and elsewhere "Chi"), but the unaspirated counterpart is the same in both ("ji", "ja"). Incidentally, if anything "I King" would be Cantonese rather than "I Ching"; the change of Ancient Chinese "k" to "ch" before "i" did not take place in Cantonese.

[Curiously, the same thing happened as Latin evolved into Italian. Compare the pronunciation that an ancient Roman and a modern Italian would give to the proper name "Cicero".]

...A bit more on sic. (Incidentally, this and previous letter are not for publication unless you clear up all spelling mistakes. [Which I cannot recall encountering in your Urtext.] Certainly you should not tamper with a Barents, though as you've said they shouldn't be (sic)'ed to death either - and you don't. But in the absence of any scholarly requirement for exact quotation why should you ever use (sic) on any letter? You should either leave untouched as a horror or clear all up. Grammatical errors that produce ambiguity might deserve a (sic), though. [As would cases where it is impossible to distinguish between two equally possible and applicable terms.]

The reason I, at least, dislike (sic)'s is that they seem to occur preponderantly (admittedly, not wholly) in opponents' letters, as if you were saying "Ignore 'em, folks; the jerks can't even spell." This is not

even dirty pool; it's petty pool, and degrading to reasonable argument. I assume that's your goal (even if you consider it unilateral effort).

Viet Nam is not a rare spelling. Further, if most of the non-VC sources you quote were consistent with their writing Song My, My Lai, ARVN (for ARV, if it's one word), they'd write Viet Nam too. ["ARVN" is the army of the Saigon government, and the acronym was apparently put together, in Saigon or in Washington, by someone using the "Viet Nam" spelling.] (I know you wrote Songmy, etc. They don't.) So "Viet Nam" may not be preferred usage, but it has too much going for it to be (sic)'ed. Actually I suspect this is irrelevant; from what you say this seems to be a gesture of solidarity with the VC (or the V) for you, rather than a spelling quibble.

[As a rule, though there are exceptions on both sides, "Viet Nam" seems to be the preferred spelling for people who support the American invasion of that country, and "Vietnam" for those who oppose it. The only even tentative explanation I can find for this fact is that "Viet Nam" looks more exotic, hence alien, hence primitive, and thus seems to justify the intervention in that country of what Rod Walker is frank enough to call "the American Empire". This sounds like a far-fetched idea, but it is the only one I can think of.]

DON MILLER, 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Md. 20906 (21 May): I find it rather strange logic for John Boardman to infer, as he did on page 10 of GRAUSTARK #238, that the N3F Games Bureau Diplomacy Division is worthless because the N3F has had its problems over the years.

The Games Bureau is an official function of the National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F), although the parent club has given us no financial support whatsoever since the formation of the Bureau in 1964. And the N3F has given the Bureau very little support of any other kind (other than "moral" support), because its ongoing internal problems have kept it turned in upon itself almost since its inception. Thus, the Games Bureau has succeeded in spite of, rather than because of, its connection/relationship with the N3F. [Benign neglect, eh?]

The Diplomacy Division is an offshoot of the Games Bureau, and, in turn, has prospered because of the hard work of one Rod Walker, with no financial support and only a minimum of interference/help from the Bureau.

The Diplomacy Division is largely a Gamesmaster-oriented group, while The Diplomacy Association, I understand, is to be player-oriented. Thus the two groups should complement each other rather than compete with one another. A player-oriented group is a very-much needed addition to the Postal Diplomacy field, and as such I welcome it and promise it my full support.

One last point. I get rather tired of watching people attack each other over and over again in print, using up valuable space which could better be devoted to more useful pursuits. These personal attacks serve little useful purpose - they cloud whatever issue is really there by drawing the attention of the reader to personalities rather than issues, and are of interest only to those readers who would have been at home in the days of the Roman gladiators.

["In this corner, Domini et Dominae, the secutor Rodnius Saxonius, the fearful swordsman of the murky woods of Germany. And in this corner, the retiarius Bessarar of Arabia, the most skillful netman of the eastern deserts. Ten rounds to a decision, populi, and hold your thumbs in readiness."]

*

GRAUSTARK endorses and commends to its readership Christopher Schleicher's editorial in Atlantis #38. The editorial deals with the attacks on The Diplomacy Association, and reasons why players should support it. Atlantis is 10 issues for \$1.50; 5122 W. Carmen Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60630.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

A few months ago, there was mailed out with an issue of GRAUSTARK a pamphlet expressing concern that President Nixon might order nuclear weapons to be used on Vietnam.

Confirmation has come from Japan, in the form of a court martial prosecution against Hershel David Poplin of the 15th Psychological Detachment, 7th Psychological Warfare Group. This group conducts "psychological operations" against Vietnam, Korea, Laos, Cambodia, Taiwan, Singapore, Thailand, Japan, Okinawa, the Philippines, and Indonesia, "influencing the behavior of people so that they act in such a way as to support us."

Last summer, Poplin was ordered to draft a leaflet "intended to be dropped after nuclear weapons had been used against North Korea explaining the 'reasons' to the survivors". (This, of course, could be easily adapted to Vietnamese conditions should such a decision be taken there.) Instead, Poplin held a press conference on 10 April explaining that he was filing war crimes charges against several of his superior officers, including Harold F. Bentz, commander of the 7th.

Poplin was promptly busted from E6 to E1 and confined incommunicado in the stockade. An attempt was made on his life by "an unknown person" while the stockade guard was mysteriously "off duty". The army is understandably reluctant to bring the case to trial, since the defendant has promised to tell all he knows about "PsyWar" operations. He has already released documents showing the entire organizational structure of the 7th.

(Guardian, 9 June 1971)

*

At home, the ranks of the army are also balking. The US government had to rely on Washington police to clear the streets of anti-war demonstrators last month, because contingents of active troops from Ft. Meade, Ft. Bragg, Ft. Belvoir, and Andrews Air Force Base were taking part in the demonstrations. And the 82nd Airborne Division's men let it be known that, if called out against the demonstrators, they would join them. (I. F. Stone's Bi-Weekly, 3 May 1971)

And the pro-war marches? One on 1 May drew 125 people, and a larger parade a week later got out 4800 by actual count by the Washington Post. (Ibid., 17 May 1971) And there were two congressmen there, too - John Schmitz of the John Birch Society and John Rarick of the Ku Klux Klan.

Silent Majority, anyone?

*

Not, of course, that it's going to make any difference. Everybody knows that an overwhelming majority of the American people oppose the war in Vietnam, and everybody knows that flat, unashamed repression is how the government is meeting this demand.

But hope dawns on the horizon! Apparently next year Hubert Humphrey is going to be elected President of the United States!

*

GRAUSTARK, the oldest postal Diplomacy publication, comes out on alternate Saturdays. The publisher, editor, and Gamesmaster is John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226. (For the benefit of players calling in moves late, my home phone number is 212-0X 3-1579, and my number at work is 212-780-5445.) Subscriptions to GRAUSTARK are 8 issues for \$1.00. Back issues are 10¢ each or 15 for \$1.00; see GRAUSTARK #239 or #240 for a list of available back issues. This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott.

*

Bill Buckley Joins the Peace Movement! "As a matter of fact, Mr. McCloskey is absolutely right. If Nixon is engaged in direct lies, in destroying the Constitution, in exterminating Asians for genocidal reasons, I'd vote for impeaching Nixon, and then hanging him." - New York Post, 3 June 1971

*

The events last year at Kent State and Jackson State should have convinced everyone that only a fool or a suicide will actively oppose the policies of our masters in Washington. But, for those who still live under a delusion, the case of Vernon McCall should be convincing.

McCall was a North Carolina mountaineer whose trailer home stood on land claimed by the U. S. Forest Service as part of a national forest. The USFS is now clearing much land

in the forest right down to the subsoil and reseeded it with white pine - pine being in greater commercial demand than hardwood these days. Among the land claimed was a tract belonging to McCall's father - or so McCall thought.

On 22 February the USFS dealt appropriately with a man who had dared to contest its word and will. A government bulldozer dug a large pit and dumped McCall's home into it, covering it then with several tons of dirt.

This action apparently upset McCall, who failed to realize that arguing with our masters in Washington is like arguing with the Angel of Death. He took to drink, got in a fight along a dark highway on the night of 13 June, and was struck and killed by a passing car. (New York Post, 13 May 1971 and New York Times, 14 June 1971)

The lesson should be clear to all of us. Words come free; we are a pragmatic people and the government knows that no regime was ever overturned by words alone. But if you make a fuss, lead a demonstration, or in any deed indicate that you do not believe its "judgments to be true and wise altogether", the federal government will wipe you out of existence like a dog licks a dish.

Verba sapientum satis.

*

Several months ago, GRAUSTARK made some sarcastic comments on the frequently reported "frog wars" from southeastern Asia, wondering whether the United States will "commit" several hundred thousand horned toads to intervene on behalf of Truth, Justice, and the American Way. But alas! the Center for Short-Lived Phenomena (which from its name ought to merge with the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions) has come to the conclusion that this "war" was actually a "breeding frenzy", and that some ten species of frogs had assembled to make love, not war.

The CSLP had nothing to say about how this disclosure will affect the beliefs of Robert Ardery and Konrad Lorenz that war and territorial aggression and defense are natural to most animal species, thus by inference to man, and thus making peace contrary to our basic biological instincts. (Lorenz, remember, was once an officer in the Wehrmacht.)

(New York Times, 18 January and 9 June, 1971)

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In Mission: Tank War, one of his "Man from W. A. R." novels, Michael Kurland reports a conversation between his hero (who bears the unlikely name of "Peter Carthage") and Professor Perlemutter, a sort of Herman Kahn type. Concerning speeches to the troops, Carthage says:

"You could have tries, 'We have raised a banner in the sight of all good men and true. The event is in the hands of God.'"

"Not bad," Perlemutter approved. "Who said it, Martin Luther or Oliver Cromwell?"

"George Washington said something like it," Peter said.

"Ah! I knew it was a Protestant."

"How does that follow?" Peter asked.

"Difference in outlook. They took their religion seriously in those days. A Catholic would have piously invoked the aid of the Deity. A Protestant would trustingly leave it in his hands."

"They" take their religion seriously in these days, too. A series currently running in the Roman Catholic monthly Triumph indicates that Catholics still feel these differences deeply. The series is nothing less than a Catholic attack on the basic documents of American democracy as constituting the scriptures of a secular "religion" which runs directly contrary to Catholic teachings.

The author, Mel Bradford, is chairman of the Department of English at the University of Dallas. The series is entitled "Lincoln's New Frontier: A Rhetoric for Continual Revolution" - which neatly ties Lincoln, Kennedy, Trotsky, and Mao up in one big bundle. He attacks secular American democracy as being based on "...a set of sacred (but generally extra-legal) documents - Declaration, Constitution, Federalist, and the rest." To these he adds the Gettysburg Address and the Battle Hymn of the Republic, which somehow represent "gnostic myth, not Christian reality", and "the rhetoric of revolution". For Bradford, the Gettysburg Address is "...sacrilege by submerged metaphor: a phony 'new testament' out of a phony 'old', with dead soldiers for a bridge". The Battle Hymn of the Re-

This is
O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflamm
O Optic
N Nerves

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public, with a "gnostic quality", explicitly says as much: "As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free." Mrs. Howe's song itself "would have created no surprise had its numbers sounded through the ranks of Cromwell's Ironsides".

(As a man whose ancestors marched in those ranks I can thoroughly agree. Atheist though I am, I would rather cry "God Our Strength" with Cromwell than "Strength Our God" with the Pentagon.)

Bradford is by no means the first Romish political philosopher to find something blasphemous in the fundamental dicta of American democracy. Now that these dicta have been flung aside by Nixon, Mitchell, and Hoover, an ideological foundation for this action has to be found. Bradford provides it.

Oh - Bradford correctly attributes Lincoln's "government of the people, by the people, and for the people" to the 14th-century proto-Protestant John Wycliffe. (See GRAUSTARKS #231 and #234.) I find myself in a curious agreement with those Ultramarine Catholics who regard Protestantism as a halfway house between Roman Catholicism and Marxism. Protestants, as Kurland observed, do not plea to God for help; they simply assume, like Marxists, that the fundamental reality of the universe is in accordance with their beliefs and plans. Whether you call this reality "god" and give it a personality, or not, is a minor matter once you have departed from Rome. It has truly been observed that Marxism is Calvinism without Christianity.

In accordance with this dichotomy, and with the present dominance in this country of views which yield nothing to Bradford in opposition to the "sacred documents" of democracy, the editor is enclosing with this GRAUSTARK the first issue of PRISCVS ORDO SECLORVM. (See the back of a one-dollar bill for details.) If we are going to have to re-adapt to the Dark Ages, we will need a little instruction in how to act. Such instruction PRISCVS ORDO SECLORVM attempts to provide.

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Members of The Diplomatic Association will be glad to learn that Edi Birsan has sent on to John Beshara all letters of inquiry and TDA membership fees which had been sent to him, and that these will be acted on and answered imminently. They will not be so glad to learn that Edi has resigned from TDA, repelled by the intemperate attacks of Leonard Lakofka, Rod Walker, and a couple of other foes of the organization. Are you happy, boys?

*

Rod Walker lives on the west coast, and underground cartoonist Larry Todd lives on the east coast. So how come, in the 27th issue of the sex tabloid "X", Todd has a 2-page cartoon centerspread featuring the adventures of a rubber-suited masochist named "Rodney Walker Deems"? What Rodney Walker deems it to be, I'd hesitate to guess.

GRAUSTARK #241

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Vernon McCall is dead

BUT

William L. Calley Jr.
is still alive. (See p. 8)